



THE COMMON CAUSE OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of
WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

NON-PARTY.

**Societies and Branches in the Union
602.**

LAW-ABIDING.

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The N.U.W.S.S. is an association of over 52,000 men and women who have banded themselves together, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. At this great national crisis, however, they have for the time being suspended their political activities, in order to put themselves and their Union at the service of those who are organising the relief of distress caused by the war. They desire to help in the most effective way, by work rather than doles; to preserve the life of the race for the future by special care of mothers and young children; and generally to illustrate in their own lives the truth that the Suffragists' demand is for duties rather than for rights, and their ideal is the service of humanity. **WILL YOU JOIN?**

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Notes and News.

Separation Allowances and Pensions.

The Royal Warrant in Army Orders which was issued on February 26th brings into effect certain increases of pay to the wives and relatives of soldiers. We rejoice to see that the date of a man's marriage (after mobilisation or enlistment) is no longer to be a bar to payment; but the position of a wife legally separated from her husband remains as unsatisfactory as when Mr. Aneurin Williams commented on it in our columns (January 29th). It is apparently to be "admissible" to pay an allowance to an "unmarried wife" if the legally married wife of the man in question is not "in receipt of" separation allowance. Many wives who have separation orders have been unable to enforce payment, and therefore—because the law has given them no protection in the past—are they to suffer for it now?

Child Labour in Agriculture.

The question of the exemption of boys from school attendance in places where there is a shortage of agricultural labour was fully discussed in Parliament on February 25th, and it was made clear that while the Government are discouraging education authorities from granting such exemptions they do not intend to forbid this practice altogether. On the one hand, it was urged by Mr. Keir Hardie and other speakers that the demand for exemption was merely an attempt on the part of the farmers to exploit cheap labour, and that all the advantages painfully built up by a series of Education Acts were in danger of being destroyed. On the other, it was maintained that the work of boys in some districts was really necessary, and that no damage would be done to them by allowing them to leave school a year or two earlier. The question of the employment of women was also raised, and it is possible that something may be done to encourage it. We are, of course, most anxious both that women should render all possible service to their country at this crisis and that they should be employed (under proper conditions) in

every industry fitted for them. At the same time we feel bound to watch with great care any attempt to use them as a means of keeping down the slowly rising wages of one of the worst sweated industries in our country. The agricultural labourer has been exploited much as women have, and for the same reasons—that he is isolated, poor, and unorganised. Circumstances are now making it possible for him to demand higher pay, and it is a suspicious fact that the cry for child labour comes from those districts where the worst rates are current. We hope that women will be employed on the land, but it must be at a better rate than these men have received in the past.

Mothers' Pensions in the United States.

The news that Arizona has just passed a Mothers' Pensions Bill reminds us that of the other nine "full Suffrage" States, seven provide for mothers' pensions—California, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. Of the thirty-seven non-Suffrage States only fifteen have mothers' pension laws, and many of these are inadequate.

War and Values.

War has a curious effect on one's sense of values; or perhaps it would be truer to say that it reveals, with a somewhat grim and ghastly light, the values on which our civilisation is built. Mr. Lloyd George, speaking at Bangor last Sunday, referred to the example set to us in temperance by France and Russia; and he promised that our own Government would take action in the interests of the same reform. Temperance workers have been clamouring for far milder measures for years, and in vain. Why is the Government to take action now? Because drink and its dire effects is lessening the output of armaments. For generations, for centuries, it has worked havoc in the home and with the rising generations. The part which alcoholism has played in the creation of the unfit and the mentally deficient, in lust, and in brutality, has yet to be measured indeed, but though we cannot measure it we know something of its devastating character. Nevertheless it is not until drink is seen to lessen the output of armaments that the drink problem is to be radically dealt with. Will women forget this when the war is over?

The Growth of Internationalism.

In spite of—or rather, because of—the war, innumerable organisations for the study of international problems are springing up. The most recent is "The Council for the Study of International Relations," and it has a very representative Advisory Council. We notice the names of Mr. G. Lowes Dickinson, Mr. Arthur Henderson, Rev. Dr. Clifford, Rev. R. J. Campbell, Rev. J. Scott Lidgett, Mr. A. L. Smith, Mrs. Snowden, Mr. Temple, and—*mirabile dictu*—the Bishops of Hereford and Oxford! Verily war makes strange bedfellows. The Secretaries are Mr. Alden and Mr. Peverett, and the home of the organisation is at 1, Central Buildings, Westminster.

SNA
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Women and War.

The meeting held on February 26th at the Caxton Hall to support the holding of an International Congress of women in Holland next month, was crowded and enthusiastic. One of the resolutions passed expressed, like one of those passed by the N.U.W.S.S. Council, a strong belief in the methods of arbitration and conciliation. It is deeply interesting to learn that the German Crown Princess has in a recent interview expressed what we believe to be the views of the vast majority of women on war: "I do not believe," she said, "that any true German mother or wife was, or can be, in favour of war—German women are mothers of sons who are or have been soldiers. They knew and realised, as perhaps the women of no other country did, with the possible exception of France, what war really meant to them before it came. That they give their sons to the Fatherland when it is in danger has been shown, and is being shown daily. But that they wanted war—ask any German mother or German wife!"

Socialism and War.

Socialism, like the Woman's Movement, is international, and consequently though most Socialists, like most women, support their own country in the hour of danger, they do not forget the rights of others. The organ of the German Social Democrats has recently published (apparently with the consent of the Government) an interesting article, in which these rights are urged. "We must," says the writer, "allow all other nations the same freedom and equal rights as we claim for ourselves. Such a peace is no defeat and no humiliation for any nation, as the independence of each of them remains intact, and each of them assures us that it is fighting solely for this object. Such a peace is really a victory for all the nations. . . . A durable and fruitful peace can only be achieved under the following conditions: No conquests; no violation or subjection of any nation; free competition of all nations in foreign countries; an understanding for a peaceful solution of disputes between Governments, and a systematic limitation of armaments. Such a peace corresponds so well to the interests of the bulk of the nations in every country that it ought to be possible, even now, immediately."

"You're a German!"

A new terror has been added to the anti-Suffragist argument against the enfranchisement of women. In a letter to *The Nation* of February 27th, Mrs. Mac William discovers us to be (1) feeble, (2) hard, (3) narrow, (4) without self-control. All this we could bear with a philosophic shrug, for custom has inured us to such railing. But to all this the war has added another terror. For are not "the defects of the German character" ("which," the lady naïvely adds, "are standing out so clearly now") just those which "are generally recognised as specially feminine in quality"? Alas for the Prussian officer who now appears in the unexpected rôle of one *specially feminine in quality*! Also for woman, who now adds to all her errors the dreadful one of being essentially German!

A Gross Impertinence.

Complaints continue to be made about women who present men not in uniform with white feathers, presumably as an encouragement to them to rally to the defence of their insulters. It has seemed to us a report as unworthy of credence as any other of the absurdities which induced a witty speaker to say the other day that "Truth was the first war casualty"; but if there really are imbeciles of this type going about, we would ask them to consider what a man must feel towards a woman who practically says to him, "I cannot go to the front and I have no intention of doing so; but please go yourself and protect me!" She might also remember that she has no possible means of knowing why he has not enlisted. He may look all right and yet not reach the required standard of physical fitness; just as she looks all right and is mentally deficient.

The Street Sale of "The Common Cause."

Our readers have hitherto generously enabled us to employ a certain number of street-sellers in the service of THE COMMON CAUSE. Their work has been invaluable, both as an advertisement and in keeping up our sales. One woman sells three dozen a day regularly. Ten shillings a week will enable us to give part-time employment to a woman looking for permanent work. Our funds are exhausted. Will our readers come to the rescue again and send us sums, however small—however large!—to help both their paper and women out of work?

In Parliament.

CHILDREN IN AGRICULTURE.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE (Sir Harry Verney), in answer to various criticisms and suggestions with regard to the exemption of boys from school in order that they may work upon the land, pointed out that it was not sufficient—as some Members seemed to think—to say that children are not to do the work. It was necessary to ask who is to do it. But the Board of Agriculture thought that other expedients should be tried before that of employing children. After consulting the President of the Chamber of Agriculture and the President of the Farmers' Union, the Board had decided that the farmers should be called upon to furnish a proof of the shortage of labour, in connection with the Labour Exchanges. Meetings were being held, in the course of the next few days, in every county in order that farmers might state to representatives of the Labour Exchanges what the shortage was. If the farmers would formulate their demands there would be something definite to go upon.

The most obvious source of labour was the town labourers. He knew these were not fitted in the ordinary way for agricultural work; but there might be some, who had been agricultural labourers in the past, who would be fitted and willing to return to the country if suitable wages were offered. There was also the possibility, if thought desirable, of tapping Belgian, Dutch, or Danish labour, and of getting boys over fourteen from Reformatories. The farmers had no means to-day of getting into touch with such labour, and it was for that reason that an appeal was being made to them to give a trial to the Labour Exchanges, and see whether suitable workers could not be obtained.

Then there was the question of employing women. The Census of 1911 showed that in Northumberland the percentage of women working on the land was 30.92 per cent., and in Scotland 41.3 per cent.; while in Bedford it was only 5 per cent., and in Wiltshire, where labour was very hard to get, it was only 1.23 per cent. If it was established that in other parts of Great Britain women could and did do the work, it remained for the farming community and the Board of Agriculture, in co-operation with the Labour Exchanges, to see if women's labour could not be introduced into those counties where there was a great shortage of labour. "What is it," he asked, "that a boy can do that a woman cannot do? Where is it that you wish to employ your children where you could not employ women?"

The real argument in the farmer's mind was that boys' labour was more convenient than woman's labour. The little boy was on the spot; he was cheap; he wore suitable clothes. It was easier to hurry him up if he were slow than it would be to deal with a woman.

MR. MOUNT (U., Newbury) suggested that the shortage of cottages in rural districts was a great argument which, in his opinion, made it improbable that any help would be received from the Labour Exchanges. Most of the suitable unmarried men had enlisted, and if married men were obtained there were no cottages to put them in.

With regard to the employment of women, at the time when women did a large amount of dairy work farmers did not send so much milk to London. Milking in some districts had to be done at four or five in the morning, and he did not believe women would get up at that hour.

MR. WHITEHOUSE (L., Lanark, Mid.) pointed out that though it might not be possible for women to go in the early hours of the morning and remain until evening doing precisely the kind of work that men did, many women would go for certain hours of the day and for certain definite parts of agricultural work. The point he wished to put was whether the organisations which the Board of Agriculture proposed to set up could not apply themselves to the details of this problem, and so make it possible for the services of women to be offered in this restricted way for certain hours of the day and for certain special cases of labour. It appeared to him that there was no difficulty in the voluntary organisation of the available labour on those lines.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION (Mr. Pease) said that on the whole the education authorities had endeavoured to control the demand which had been made by the agriculturists for boy labour. He had not yet had time to collect full particulars from all the authorities, but was already satisfied that those districts which pay the smallest wages, and where the conditions are least attractive, were just those districts in which there was a great tendency to try and exploit boy labour. A very large number of authorities had resisted altogether this demand for relaxation of their by-laws, or their administration

of those by-laws. A few had tried to meet the case by undertaking to examine each case on its merits, and to fence any relaxation with very careful conditions so as to prevent any abuse in connection with the employment of child labour. But a few had relaxed their administration in a way which he did not think was desirable.

He had tried to place before the local authorities four or five principles. First, that they should see that every effort was made in the locality for the wages to be reasonable, before they entertained the idea of allowing children to leave school in order to work on farms; secondly, that employment should only be given in very exceptional cases, and after very full inquiry that no other labour was available; thirdly, that there should be no general relaxation of any by-laws or rules; fourthly, that the employment should be of a very light character and suited to the capacity of the child; fifthly, that the employment should only be given during an emergency and for a very definite period.

As a practical man he had to put it to himself, as he put it to the House, that in the event of the farmer being able to show that he had paid good wages and was prepared to pay good wages, and could not get any other labour, he did not think a bench of magistrates would convict a parent for keeping a boy away from school to work for that farmer.

WOMEN'S MUNICIPAL PARTY.

The Women's Municipal Party held its annual meeting and elected its Council of one hundred women on February 24th at Sunderland House, by the kind permission of its President, the Duchess of Marlborough, Mr. Bannister Fletcher taking the chair. Many well-known women stood as candidates, and readers of THE COMMON CAUSE will be interested to hear that Mrs. Fawcett, Miss Catherine Marshall, and Miss Chrystal Macmillan were elected. The report, presented by the Duchess of Marlborough, showed a steady advance in the newly begun work, in spite of many difficulties occasioned by the war. Mrs. St. Clair Stobart, Lady Frances Balfour, and Mrs. Deane Streatfeild addressed the meeting, and Mrs. Stanbury and Mrs. G. F. Abbott spoke on some details of organisation.

THE WOMEN POLICE SERVICE.

The Women Police Service, with Miss Damer Dawson as its Chief Officer, is doing a very useful work in London and the provinces. In Grantham, a town of some 20,000 inhabitants with a camp of over 18,000 troops lying just outside, two police-women have been stationed for many weeks past. They work under both civil and military police authorities, and have been able to render valuable assistance to women and children. The General Commanding the Eleventh Division speaks highly of the work of the Grantham policewomen, and he has expressed the opinion that had they been installed six months earlier a great deal of the trouble which has been occasioned by the coming of so large a body of troops into the town would have been prevented. He has sent the following testimonial to Miss Damer Dawson:—

"To the Chief Officer, Women Police,—I understand that there is some idea of removing the two members of the Women Police now stationed here. I trust that this is not the case. The services of the two ladies in question have proved of great value. They have removed sources of trouble to the troops in a manner that the Military Police could not attempt. Moreover, I have no doubt whatever that the work of these two ladies in an official capacity is a great safeguard to the moral welfare of young girls in the town."

(Signed) F. HAMMERSLEY, M.G.

Commanding 11th Division, Grantham.

[NOTE.—The Women Police Volunteers, working on rather different lines, continue their service to the community under the control of the Women's Freedom League.]

LONDON SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR WOMEN.

We have received the following communication from Miss Brooks, Secretary and Warden of the London School of Medicine for Women:—

"At the meeting at Sunderland House, reported in your last issue, over £1,100 was promised to aid the extension of the scheme; but we want £25,000, and we believe that it is chiefly from women that this sum will come. A large part of the extension is to be devoted to research laboratories, and laboratories for advanced students, and these will be available not only for students working for their qualifications, but also for qualified medical women desiring to return to the school to advance the sum of human knowledge. There is a special department for pathological research being provided, the building and equipment of which will cost £3,000. Will some woman come forward and give us this laboratory? There is also the extension of the anatomical department (we remember how the necessity for studying this subject was used as an argument for precluding women for ever from the study of medicine), which, with its equipment and preparation rooms, will cost £6,000. Will some woman give this sum?"

Towards an International Women's Congress.

It was very clear from the meeting held at Caxton Hall on February 26th that there are a large number of women in full sympathy with the proposal that an International Women's Congress should be held in Holland in April. So crowded was the room originally taken, that before the meeting could begin the audience had to adjourn to a larger hall. Miss Chrystal Macmillan, who has recently visited Holland, took the Chair.

A preliminary meeting has already been held in Antwerp, and a programme drawn up. The first resolutions, Miss Macmillan explained, dealt with the peace settlement, asking the Governments of the belligerent countries publicly to define the terms on which they were willing to make peace; urging that all future international disputes should be referred to arbitration or conciliation; that foreign politics should in future be subjected to democratic control—the term democracy being understood to include women—and that there should be no transference of territory without the consent of the inhabitants. Other resolutions urged that women-delegates should take part in the conferences determining the terms of peace, and that women should work with all their power for political enfranchisement. The essential idea of the suggested Congress was embodied in an appeal that means should be used for promoting mutual understanding and good will among nations.

At the meeting at Caxton Hall it was unanimously decided to support this Congress and also to make every effort to raise the necessary funds. The cost of the Conference will be about £1,000, and the German and Dutch women have agreed to contribute a third.

MISS MARGARET BONDFIELD said that it was vital and necessary that these questions should be discussed; if the men will not make a start the women must. Each country had been afraid to speak of peace lest the reactionary press in the other countries should use that fact to its disadvantage. They were under a hypnotism which prevented them doing anything to stop this outpouring of the blood of their nearest and dearest. It was the women who had to break the spell so that people might see what a horrible mistake it all had been and so adjust human relations that it could never be again. Women had shown a grasp of essential things during the months of war; and women, if they would, could rise to the tremendous responsibility of an international force, and deliberately plan the fabric upon which the world's welfare should be built. The peace they had in view was no flabby thing—not like a flabby angel in a damp cloud—their peace was going to be a robust reality.

MISS WILSON urged that delegates at the Congress should have the capacity to put their own point of view clearly, and also the capacity to see the other person's point of view. A politician had said to her the other day, "It may not be half a bad thing if you women put your heads into the lion's mouth first."

MISS CATHERINE MARSHALL said that all had the most passionate desire to serve their country in this appalling calamity. They had shown this first by doing what they could to mitigate the suffering caused by the war, but they felt that their nation and the world needed the services not only of their hands, but of their minds and hearts. They felt they had something definite, as women, to contribute to the problems of War and Peace. They saw things from a different angle and in a different proportion to the men because they had a different part to play in war. It was easier for women, as non-combatants, to open a discussion on terms of peace, than for any able-bodied male pacifist who had not enlisted. Women could do much by co-operation, and they must have something constructive to put before the world, and in order to have something constructive they must come together. What they most wanted was to be able to stand outside their own national point of view, and try to understand the other person's point of view. This can only be done by coming together and finding out what our enemies feel about themselves and about us. It would be easier for the women to meet in this way while victory was still undecided than later on when one side was winning. The terms of peace would depend very much on the national feeling behind the few men who made it. The end of militarism, which was the end they all had in view, would not come by victory alone, but by the force of an awakened and enlightened public opinion. It was time to begin the process of enlightenment.

A resolution was moved by a member of the audience, seconded by Miss Marshall and carried, that it should be recommended to the committee to be appointed that a resolution on the question of armaments be submitted to the Dutch Committee.

The sum of about £300 was raised on the spot towards the expenses of the Congress.

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

CANADA.

Woman's Century, the official organ of the Canadian Council of Women, remarks:—

"Woman Suffrage should soon be an accomplished fact in Saskatchewan. The Government has declared that they are in favour of the principle of votes for women, and will give it when they are convinced that the public opinion of the Province is in favour of it. This should not be difficult to prove in an up-to-date Province in the West, and several Societies have already taken up the challenge. The Women's Grain Growers' Association, the W.C.T.U., and the three existing Women's Franchise Societies are working along these lines."

U.S.A.

West Virginia has now become a campaign State, the amendment having passed both Houses on January 26th by a large majority.

On January 27th, the Committee on Constitutional Amendments of the Texas House reported favourably a Suffrage amendment by a vote of 16 to 2. On January 28th, the Tennessee State voted to submit a Suffrage amendment by a vote of 16 to 12. On February 1st, the Arkansas State voted to submit a Suffrage amendment. The figures are not yet known.

"The action of these Legislatures," says the *Woman's Journal*, "is absolutely without precedent in the South."

Woman's Journal (February 13th) reports excellent news from New York:—

"Without a single dissenting voice, each House of the New York Legislature voted last week to submit the Suffrage amendment to the voters next November. New York is now a full-fledged campaign State. . . . the passage of the amendment by the New York Legislature marks a victory for Suffragists, which crowns efforts begun in 1848."

We learn from the same source that "Both Houses of the Arkansas Legislature have passed the Suffrage Amendment." it is improbable, however, that this amendment will come before the voters, as only three amendments can be submitted at one time, and these had already been passed.

MOTHERS' PENSIONS.

According to *Woman's Journal*, the Suffrage State of Arizona has just passed unanimously a Mothers' Pensions Bill, including in its provisions not only widows but destitute aged widowers who have children.

"Mothers' pensions are being advocated by juvenile courts and most women's organisations, because they believe that children should be properly cared for, and that they can be cared for best at home."

"In Montana, the new women voters have just shown serious flaws in a Mothers' Pension Bill before the Legislature, and have drawn up one of their own."

The Census Bureau has just published a report showing the relative death-rate in different States for 1913. Washington State shows the lowest rate, 8.5 per 1,000, and the *Woman's Journal* remarks, "it is significant that an equal Suffrage State leads the whole procession in the important matter of health."

In addition to a woman legislator in each House in Colorado, Oregon, and Arizona, news has just come that a woman, Mrs. Morna A. Wood, is serving in the House of Representatives in Wyoming.

DENMARK.

For some years an important Commission has been considering the reform of laws dealing with family life, with the object of unifying legislation, so far as possible, throughout Norway, Denmark, and Sweden. Last November, women representatives were appointed for both Norway and Sweden, and we now learn from *Kvinden og Sarufundet* that Fru Hein, an oculist of Copenhagen, has been appointed, thus bringing Denmark into line with the other countries.

NORWAY.

A letter from Norway to *Rösträtt för Kvinnor* states that a proposition will be laid before the Storting, making women eligible to the Council of State (Statsraad). This means a reform in the law of the Constitution which will require a majority of two-thirds of the Storting to carry. In the present state of political parties, it is doubtful if such a majority will be forthcoming. It will be remembered that in 1912 Norway granted eligibility to women to all public offices, with the reservation of the State Council, the Diplomatic, Consular, Military, and Ecclesiastical Departments.

GERMANY.

Dr. Elizabeth Reinecke, the first woman army doctor, has been appointed to the charge of a military hospital.

Correspondence.

A large amount of correspondence is unavoidably held over, including an interesting letter on "Opportunities for Women Doctors," by M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

BOYS AND FARM LABOUR.

MADAM,—You mistake my meaning if you think I said that women were not strong enough to do the work little boys do on farms, but it is not suitable work for them and they have work they like better. In the South of England, in which most of the counties lie that have resolved not to prosecute parents who remove boys of twelve from school to do agricultural work, the situation is as follows:—

Many men have gone to the war. Their places are filled more or less efficiently by the big lads who have been working under them for the last two or three years, who have acquired a certain amount of skill. The little boys are wanted to do the work these big boys have been doing. It is obvious that such work would not tempt women. Driving cows, going with carts, leading plough-horses, running messages, would not be work women would take. Married women with families rarely go out to work. Girls go into service. The female labour that can be obtained in a village consists of widows or middle-aged women who have finished with family cares and are willing to go out two or three days in the week washing or charring. In some places they will do hop tying and potato picking, sometimes weeding. Under these circumstances the boys of twelve, who in ordinary times are allowed to go to farm work at thirteen, have been allowed to start a year earlier, and I think you would find that the plan was approved of by the public opinion of the villagers themselves.

You ask whether I would be willing to let my own boys do it. If they intended to work on the land as their means of livelihood, I certainly should. There is no cruelty to a boy in putting him to farm work. Probably it is a greater strain to health to run a boy for a scholarship in one of our public schools, than to let him do ordinary boys' work in the fields. And one may contrast the bitter tears with which many small boys of the well-to-do classes return to their boarding schools after the holidays, with the extremely cheerful view the young cottager takes of "going to work." To the natural boy farm work is less irksome than learning the multiplication table. It is very varied; no two days quite the same. He is working with his father, brothers, uncles, cousins. He has plenty of people to stand up for him should he be bullied or even "put upon." It is an education, and a fine education, bringing out some of the best qualities in a man. Of course they should be paid fair wages. Under the present need for their services they will probably get better paid than they have been.

Finally, I would like to point out that County Councils are elected bodies, the most democratically elected bodies we have, representing women as well as men, and there is no reason to think that they have not the hearty approval of their constituents in the course they have taken.

These remarks do not apply to the North or East and Centre of England. I know that both in the North and Lincolnshire there are many women who are trained agricultural labourers. The girls stay at home and work in the fields instead of going out to service. So there, probably, women can be found to take the men's places.

MAUD SELBORNE.

[We regret that Lady Selborne's letter was unavoidably held over last week. Mrs. Hutchinson's article on "The Claims of Adolescence" seems to us to answer it conclusively. It is the burden of maturity laid on the shoulders of the immature which we all dread for our own children. Lady Selborne surely stands alone in her willingness to accept this for her sons, "if they intended to work on the land." We have not met a single instance among the sons of parents, who had the means, who was not sent to a public school, and often even to an agricultural college afterwards, if he was intended ultimately to make his living on the land.—ED., C.C.]

BRITISH IMPERIALISM.

MADAM,—I have read your paper on "The Imperial Idea" with much pleasure. Englishmen as a rule speak of "our Empire" as if it was the personal property of the speakers. They fail to realise that each State is a nation in its infancy. The Australian, for instance, looks forward to the time when Australia will be as populous as the United States are now. He says to himself, What would be the relationship between England and America now, if the Colonies had not been forced into war by the arrogance of the King? I am old enough to look back to the time when the Colonies were very nearly following the example of America. The split was averted by England granting them full right of self-government. The memory of that bitter time has almost completely passed away in Australia now, and we hear very little about "cutting the painter," except in fun.

AUSTRAL.

"COMPASSION."

MADAM,—I was much stirred last week by your application of the lines from "Aurora Leigh" to the problem of the violated women of France. I am glad you quoted them, for it is a gleam of light in the darkness to believe that some women may have such thoughts and find a joy in the midst of their pain.

Yet the more I think over these questions, the more it seems to me that, in face of the hideous facts, the women who can find the consolation of these most divine ideals must be very few among those who have suffered. It is conceivable, for instance, that some women may find a terrible kind of joy in expiating in their own bodies their innocent share of the crimes of war. Some women, too, have said that to them there would be a consolation and a joy in sheer motherhood: "I could be a mother in a month." But have these last the very dimmest conception of the price paid by the outraged women of France and Belgium?

What of the young wife who already knows the joys of happy motherhood, and who feels that the inmost sanctuary of her being has been defiled, feels it (unlike Marion in "Aurora Leigh") not only for herself,

but for her husband and for her children? What of the ignorant girl to whom motherhood to the end of her days will be identified with the foulest iniquity? Or of the thousand nuns in France alone, whose bodies as well as souls were given to God?

Will it be enough, will it touch the heart of their misery, for us to say: "But you have the child; here are the violets which shall 'over blow an ugly grave,'" when the grave is a chasm that has cut a woman's life in two?

It seems to me, we dare not, in the face of their unutterable suffering, offer such women consolation when we cannot fathom half their grief. Can we, *women who have not suffered*, who can only vaguely conceive the intolerable torture of violation by a foreign conqueror, his hands red with the blood of our brothers and sons—can we offer to women so unspeakably less fortunate than ourselves the somewhat facile comfort of ideals which the vast majority of them cannot grasp?

Do not think I regret your quotation. I do not. But I feel its consolations only touch the fringes of this ancient grief of women, and are only possible for the very few among the thousands who have paid this old price of war. For the sake of those who must remain un comforted, I am impelled to write you this letter.

LILIAN HAY COOPER.

[We have been very painfully impressed by the atmosphere of hatred in which this terrible problem has generally been discussed, and—for the sake of both the mothers and the unborn babes—we desired, if it were by any means possible, to suggest at least one thought that was of love instead of hate. We were careful to put first the proposal to take away and support children whom their mothers found it intolerable to keep with them, nor did we venture to make on Mrs. Browning's verses any comment. That a suggestion put forward in this way, and with such evident reserves, should strike anyone as an attempt to offer "facile comfort" did not seem to us possible; but since it has done so, we are glad to publish Miss Hay Cooper's letter.—ED., C.C.]

REASON VERSUS PREJUDICE.

MADAM,—Our readers may be interested in the following extract from a speech lately delivered at a girls' school, for it shows that it is possible to speak to the young about this war in the spirit that dominates the resolutions passed by our Council, and speak of healing and reconciliation without lack of patriotism, without trenching on controversial topics. "I mean," the speaker said, "the great calamity of the war, which seems to so many of us a war of brothers against brothers. We look to the young generation—to you—to heal the terrible wounds this war must leave, and one way in which you can help is to nurse no bitterness against the foe we have to fight. Fight the foe, but do not hate him. Try to see his point of view; our own is easy enough to see, but the enemy has a point of view also, which he is willing to die for, and we must not forget that. At all your lessons train yourselves to grow up honest and fair-minded, ready, at any rate, to consider all sides of a question and to form an unbiased opinion. Knowledge and training help us to win self-control, and to be ruled by reason, not by prejudice. And reason helps us to the love of all humanity."

F. MELIAN STAWELL.

"PEACE AND PATRIOTISM."

MADAM,—Mr. Ogden, in THE COMMON CAUSE of February 29th, does me the honour to quote a sentence from my pamphlet on *Peace and Patriotism*.

"We have abolished duelling between individuals, and war, which is but a duel between nations, must go." Taken in isolation or with Mr. Ogden's connections, that statement might be understood as implying criticism or even disapproval of the present war. Will you kindly allow me to state distinctly that I believe the present war to be both necessary and just? War is, in the present issue, our best hope of crushing militarism. "How then can war be slain? Not merely, I think, though that is our immediate duty, by fighting the Kaiser, but," &c. The words and the italics are my own.

JANE ELLEN HARRISON.

A DOUBLE STANDARD OF TEMPERANCE.

MADAM,—I have been very sorry to see in your columns that members of Suffrage Societies are trying to alter the rule that soldiers' wives are not to be served with drink before noon. It seems to me that we who are in favour of Women's Suffrage ought to try to promote soberness and temperance among women. The question ought to be decided on its merits, and not merely looked at from the point of view of sex. We say we wish for the vote to promote the good of the nation, but no one will believe us if they see us opposing useful measures on merely party grounds.

A SUFFRAGIST.

[We entirely agree that temperance should be treated "on its merits" and not "from the point of view of sex." Either temperance is a merit in both sexes or in neither. That is why we object to a double standard. We should support any well-considered measure for increasing temperance among men and women alike.—ED., C.C.]

GIRLS' CADET CORPS.

MADAM,—Will you allow me to make the following appeal through your columns? The Scottish Active Service League is starting branches of the Girls' Cadet Corps on the lines suggested by its leader, Mrs. Harley, but it is very much in need of indoor games, &c., for the recreation hours of the Corps. Will any members be so kind as to send either old or new games suitable for the purpose, and particularly jigsaw puzzles? These latter are very attractive, but too expensive to provide in any quantity, except through the kindness of friends. All contributions will be most gratefully accepted, and if sent to this address I shall be most happy to forward them to A.S.L. Secretaries where the Girls' Cadet Corps has been formed.

S. STIRLING.

Federation Section Leader, Fordel, Glenfarg.

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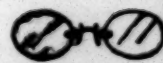
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MEETINGS.—Monday, March 8th, at 3.30 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. KINOTON PARKES, Chair: The Hon. Mrs. HAVERFIELD. Subject: "The Women's Emergency Corps."

Wednesday, March 10th, at 3.30 p.m., Women's Freedom League.

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ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS to be addressed to The Manager, THE COMMON CAUSE, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., and all ADVERTISEMENTS must reach the Office not later than first post on Tuesday. Advertisement Representative, S. R. Le Mare.

NOTICE.—This paper is obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by mid-day on Friday. If any difficulty is found in obtaining it locally, please communicate with The Manager, THE COMMON CAUSE.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies being a body which exists to obtain the enfranchisement of women, holds no official view upon any other topic. Opinions expressed upon other subjects must not be regarded as necessarily those of the Union.

"One of the Most Heroic Things."

"Drink is doing us more damage in the war than all the German submarines put together."—MR. LLOYD GEORGE, at Bangor, February 28th.

Mr. Lloyd George, in his speech in Bangor last Sunday, said many memorable things. Not the least memorable was his assertion that "a nation which cannot bear the truth is not fit for war." It was a fit introduction to the plain truths that the speaker was about to lay before his audience, and we believe that not his hearers at Bangor only but the whole country will support his demand upon its sincerity.

We are not concerned here with Mr. George's references to the industrial war on the Clyde, but only with one paragraph of his speech in which he referred to the effect on our national efficiency of "the lure of drink." We have all held our breath in amazed admiration at the courage with which our Allies have attacked the difficulty. We have been told again and again that public opinion has been behind the French and Russian Governments in their action. Now we have Mr. George's word for it that the Russian Minister of Finance, who "has lost £65,000,000 a year" over the prohibition of the sale of vodka, would, if he proposed to remove the prohibition, "provoke a revolution!" And from France we know that the Bill suppressing altogether the sale of absinthe was passed by 481 votes to 52.

What are we going to do in this matter? Mr. George tells us that the British Government "is armed with full powers for the Defence of the Realm," and intends to use them "discreetly, wisely, but quite fearlessly." Good; but what has been done so far? Ridiculous regulations restricting the hours of sale of alcohol to the more temperate sex will hardly effect what Russia has achieved by doing, "one of the most heroic things in the war," or restore the strength and efficiency of those workmen who are so large a factor in this war of engineers. Such devices are a mere sop to awakened public opinion, and it is time that some measure more likely to be effective and less obviously unjust, should be considered. On February 25th there appeared in the Press an appeal, signed by a number of representative men and women, urging that "the time has come when Great Britain should have the courage to follow the example of her two great Allies and suppress the sale of all spirits for at least the period of the war." We gather from Mr. George's Bangor speech that this drastic remedy is not proposed by the Government; nor do we desire here to urge one measure rather than another to meet a case on which the learned so deeply disagree. But we are concerned to support the plea of the Chancellor of the Exchequer himself, for courage in dealing with huge vested interests, and a deeply rooted national vice, on the grounds that "drink is doing us more damage than all the German submarines put together."

We suggest also that any measure decided on must no more be a class than a sex measure. Lord Robert Cecil struck the right note in the House of Commons on Monday when he said (speaking on this very point): "If you are going to make a great demand, that demand ought to be made equally on all classes, whether they are rich or whether they are poor."

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

Alsace-Lorraine.*

Problems of War and Peace are discussed in THE COMMON CAUSE in a series of articles by well-known writers. Contributors are left free to express their own opinions, which must not be assumed to represent the official views of the N.U.W.S.S.

A Reuter telegram, dated Paris, December 22nd, informed us that "a feature of the sitting of the French Chamber of Deputies to-day was the presence in the gallery of two members of the German Reichstag—Herr Georg Weil, Deputy for Metz, who is now serving in the French Army, and the Abbé Wetterlé. Another Alsatian, Herr Blumenthal, Mayor of Colmar, was also present." On the same day the Central News correspondent in Amsterdam telegraphed a report from Berlin that Herr Weil had sent a message to his friends declaring that in taking service in the French Army he was sure that thus he could best perform his duty as a Socialist Deputy for Alsace-Lorraine. The presence of these deputies in the gallery of the French Chamber was but one among many signs of the prevalent feeling in Alsace and Lorraine since the outbreak of war; and the speech then delivered from the tribune below by M. Viviani, the French Premier, must have deeply stirred those listening patriots who had long upheld the traditions and culture of France amid their ever-encroaching German environment in the Reichsland.

The history of Alsace and Lorraine since 1871 is a long and unhappy story of wrongs perpetrated in the name of German nationality, and furnishes us with an enlightening example of the truth that good government is no substitute for self-government. When the Treaty of Frankfort, more than forty years ago, handed over the two Rhine provinces to the newly formed German Empire, the Germans sincerely believed that the people of Alsace-Lorraine, being of historic German origin, would quickly embrace their new allegiance and accept the traditions of Germany as their own. Alsace and Lorraine, so the argument ran, are really German; "they belonged to the Reich in the old days before Louis XIV. and other military sovereigns of France stole them away; their people speak German in many places and bear German names; and assuredly we shall have little difficulty in weaning them from the alien allegiance of France; before long they will be as German again as the rest of us." Bismarck did, indeed, admit the aversion of the people to Prussian rule, but promised that everything would be done to conciliate them; and, in common with the rest of his countrymen, he expected to see the French sentiment of the two provinces disappear.

Now the historical part of this German argument was true, but the expectation founded upon it was wholly illusory. A large part of both provinces is, by origin and language, German, closely akin to the neighbouring peoples in Pfalz and the Grand Duchy of Baden; and if the Imperial Government had understood the nature of the task imposed upon it by the acquisition of Alsace-Lorraine, it would have endeavoured to establish political institutions congenial to the people of its new territory, and so prove that the German Empire was not only mighty but just. But political sagacity is a thing undreamed of in the Prussian philosophy, and the opportunity of winning the Reichsland population for the Empire was lost. A harsh Prussian military administration was set up, and under its auspices a policy of "acclimatisation" was pursued. The schoolmaster and the drill-sergeant worked hand-in-hand to obliterate the memory of France. The language, literature, and traditions of the French were attacked by every agency at the command of the Government, in the belief that they had but a superficial hold upon the affections of the people. Never was a belief more disastrously mistaken. While it was true that German was the language of the common people in many parts of Alsace and Lorraine, the German Government did not realise that the two provinces had remained long enough under the French flag to acquire deep-rooted French traditions, to assimilate the civilisation of the French, which formed a worthy complement to their own, and, finally, in the course of five generations—from the Peace of Ryswick to the Treaty of Frankfort—to learn to love France passionately as those do who know her best.

This political blindness—so characteristic of the Prussian mind—led to a long succession of errors in the German administration of Alsace and Lorraine; and even when the eyes of Germany were opened to see the true character of Reichsland politics, no attempt was made to alter the fatal policy of repression or to meet the aspirations of the people by the offer of a free partnership in the Empire. Late in the day (1911) a sham constitution was given to the two provinces, but the manner of the gift and the foolish threats which accompanied it deprived

it of the little virtue which it possessed. Nowhere has the incapacity of the Prussians as a governing race been more tragically displayed than in this matter of the position of Alsace and Lorraine in the German Empire; for by the date given above, the idea of *revanche*—the return to France—had begun to lose its hold upon the people, and in its place there had sprung up a demand for an autonomous partnership in the Empire. I have not space enough here to recount the tale of that evolution of Alsatian opinion, and must refer my readers to the December issue of the *Nineteenth Century* for a fuller discussion of it. For my present purpose it will suffice to say that the pre-occupation of France with her own urgent domestic problems after the upheaval of 1870 prevented her from preparing a war of liberation for her two lost provinces, and by the end of the nineteenth century the growth of a strong pacific sentiment in France made such a war seem farther away than ever. Each year, too, the price of *revanche* seemed to rise with the increasing growth of German military power, and the capacity of France to pay it seemed to decrease; and all the while political parties in Alsace-Lorraine had found a basis of co-operation with congenial German parties in the Reichstag, and had begun to suspect that, since France appeared to be powerless to rescue them, their brightest future lay in uniting their whole forces in the demand for a truly autonomous constitution which would enable them to enter the Empire in the same free partnership as Bavaria or Württemberg. But this demand for autonomy was only the lesser of two evils, and it proceeded from a recognition of the power of Germany to maintain the territorial *status quo*. Thus to turn their backs upon their beloved France was a hard, sad thing to do; but reason demanded it, and to that demand the hearts of Alsace and Lorraine bowed in silence. Their whole attitude proved, however, that the attempt to Prussianise the two provinces had failed, and that they would ever remain an alien and disturbing element in the body politic of the German Empire until their right to self-government was recognised.

Such a conclusion formed no part of the political projects of Prussia; and thus the outbreak of war found the populations of Alsace and Lorraine in a ferment of anti-German feeling so marked that the Prussian military authorities doubled the sentry posts on the frontier between the Reichsland and France in order to prevent wholesale desertion to the enemy! The general feeling was summed up by M. Auguste Lalancé, a veteran Alsatian patriot who had sat in the Reichstag for many years: "Alsace-Lorraine can never be German again; nor can we be a neutral country. Not German because our aspirations, our native soil, our people, they are all French. Not neutral because our industry and agriculture will not permit it. They need outlets; and if we became a neutral State, that would spell ruin to our industry and our agriculture." The unconquerable strength of the French sentiment round Metz and in Upper Alsace is the outstanding feature in the two provinces; and the preponderance of French patriotism generally justifies and demands the reunion of France with her lost provinces. But there will yet remain, thereafter, the problem of the German-speaking, German-sympathising, districts whose desires must not be rudely overborne. A *plébiscite* will doubtless settle the fate—whatever it be—of the two provinces as a whole; but we must take care not to make the innocent German inhabitant of Strassburg or Eastern Lorraine suffer in 1916 for the evil works of Bismarck in 1871. In a word, the sore of Alsace-Lorraine must be healed in such a way as to leave no rankling memory of injustice on either side. I believe that France can receive full reparation for the cruel wrong inflicted on her by the Treaty of Strassburg without creating a new injustice which would breed a war of German retaliation in the future. The lesson of the past generation in Alsace-Lorraine is that the destiny of great national populations must be left in their own hands.

A. F. WHYTE, M.P.

[Next week: *Sore Places in Europe (II.)*, Poland, by G. E. Slocombe.]

The Educational Campaign of the National Food Fund.

BY LADY CHANCE.

The National Food Fund is an association called into being by the war, and it has two main objects, the first of these being the collection and distribution of food for war-sufferers—principally Belgian Refugees and unemployed Englishwomen, also poor mothers and babies. This part of its work is carried out entirely through the agency of societies dealing with these

* A fuller discussion of the question will be found in *The Nineteenth Century*, December, 1914.

classes of the distressed. At the present time it is sending out food for over 4,000 persons daily, and it has been constituted the official distributor of the War Refugees Committee at Aldwych. It is, however, with the second object of the Fund that this article will deal—namely, the Educational Campaign for the prevention of waste of the nation's food resources.

That food prices must rise during the war was, of course, obvious from the outset; and that the cost of the war must be met by greatly increased taxation, which, in the long run, always falls most heavily on the poor, was equally obvious. What is not so obvious is that the nation, which can best husband its resources so as to suffer least from economic stress, not only contributes to its own powers of winning, and winning more quickly in the great struggle, but is also contributing to its power of a speedier economic recovery when the war is over. It is thus literally true to say that everyone who saves food (or prevents it from being wasted) is doing a really patriotic work, quite apart from the benefit that must accrue to the individual. Those first months (or it may be more than months) after peace is restored will, in expert opinion, be a time of far greater economic strain than any that is likely to be felt while the artificial prosperity of the war continues. Now, we are only running up the bill; then, we shall have to pay it.

It is to help the nation's housewives to realise this practical and patriotic aim that the N.F.F. has planned an educational campaign on very wide lines throughout the country. For this work it has been fortunate in securing the co-operation of some of the best-known food and cookery experts in the Kingdom, including Mr. Herman Senn, and under their skilled guidance it is organising a scheme of simple and practical instruction in the principles of household economy, and the methods of buying, cooking, and using food to the greatest advantage. This instruction will be given by the teachers or "Commissioners" of the N.F.F., both in London and in provincial "Centres." "Campaign literature" is in preparation and will be ready by the end of March. It includes a very comprehensive *Handbook for Housewives*, to be issued at 1d., a large coloured card, designed to show pictorially in a striking and easily comprehended way the comparative cost and nourishing qualities of some of the most ordinary foods, and some posters and handbills for advertising purposes.

The interest aroused by the scheme is so great that it is already becoming evident that the N.F.F.'s own band of special teachers (now completing their training under Mr. Senn) will be quite unable, even if greatly increased in numbers, to cover the very large field waiting to be worked. To meet this difficulty a subsidiary scheme has been devised which will need for its successful working the active co-operation of a number of intelligent women in every part of the country. Need I say that it is to members of the National Union that I am looking in hopeful anticipation that they will come forward in large numbers and offer their services for this truly national and patriotic work? (In this connection I am authorised to say that the Guildford Women's Suffrage Society has already decided to co-operate and is organising a "centre," which will include Guildford itself and some of the neighbouring villages, where the classes will be started early in April.)

But to return to the "subsidiary scheme." As it will be quite impossible for the N.F.F. itself to train or otherwise procure a sufficient number of fully qualified teachers, it is contemplating working the small country villages and districts on a plan which has been carried out very successfully in Shropshire under the County Council. It proposes to invite volunteers, who should in all cases be people already possessing some practical knowledge of cookery and domestic management, to offer themselves to be trained by the N.F.F. teachers. Wherever about fifteen of such volunteers will organise themselves and form a class of learners, a N.F.F. teacher would be sent to train them. They would be taught on a carefully prepared syllabus, which would include both theory and practice, and they should, after a course of lecture-demonstrations, be qualified to pass on to others the knowledge which they have thus acquired. They would, in their turn, hold classes for working women, the syllabus for these being, of course, supplied by the experts of the N.F.F., and arranged on the basis of what had already been taught to the volunteers. In Shropshire, about two hundred volunteers have been trained in this way by the County Council Cookery Teachers since the war broke out, and the authorities are quite satisfied that they have been able to pass on the teaching successfully to large numbers of cottage women who, it appears, appreciate it immensely, and are most anxious that it should be continued and extended.

Here is surely a magnificent opportunity for Suffragists to prove the truth of the assertion that their desire is rather for service than privileges; and believing, as I do, that the Suffrage

ranks contain the flower of all that is most capable and devoted among our English womanhood, I appeal with every confidence to my fellow-Suffragists to come forward and volunteer for this particular form of "active service." I shall be very glad to hear from all those who are interested, and to give them further information as to the details of the scheme (address, National Food Fund, 1a, Dover Street, London, W.). I should add that, besides the classes for working women, the N.F.F. has decided, in response to numerous requests, to organise other classes for the mistresses and cooks of small households where the need for economy is often felt to be even more pressing than among the artisan population. And I may also say that the whole scheme has been planned so as to be worked at a minimum of expense to those co-operating in it. In fact, it should be "self-supporting" if carried out on N.F.F. lines.

(The N.F.F. needs, in addition to an unlimited number of "volunteers," a certain number of ladies who have already trained and qualified in cookery and domestic economy, and to whom it offers a good salary as "Lecturer-Demonstrators." Such ladies are invited to apply immediately to the address given above.)

N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

FRENCH UNIT.

Preparations for the Enteric Hospital at Mont-à-Terre are proceeding apace, and ten nurses will be on their way out in the week beginning March 7th.

The latest news, in a letter of February 26th, is that there are eighty-five patients now at the Abbaye, and all the medical beds are full, so Dr. Ivens is asking now that only "blessés" should be sent. She continues:—

Several of the army doctors stationed at Creil came to see us on Tuesday, and invited us to lunch at the Chateau Hebert yesterday with the mess of about twenty-five. They gave us quite a banquet, with speeches, flags, and violets, and it was very enjoyable. We were very sorry Mrs. Harley, or Miss French, as they described her, could not go, as the auditors were coming.

General Joffre's A.D.C. returned yesterday with beautiful boxes of cigarettes for the *blésés* from the Queen of Bulgaria. I asked him again about the permit for the Front, and he is thinking how it can be done, but he says it is very difficult. What I should really like would be to send our five cars as a convoy to bring the wounded straight here. I think we shall need a light-running touring car if the Creil hospital is started. It is very hard on the ambulances to use them for station work, and we are trying to sell the Renault as soon as possible, as it is too uncertain.

The Scottish minister, Mr. Kesting, has just come out from Paris to see us, and will probably hold a service this afternoon.

SERBIAN UNIT.

Dr. Eleanor Soltau writes on February 11th:—

I am afraid I have not told you much about the smaller details of the working of the hospital. All the work practically is done by Austrian orderlies; we have three in each ward, who do all the stretcher work, carrying patients to the dressing-room, bringing them here for X-ray, and so on; then they carry up all the food, sweep the floors, and so on, and of course a good many of them speak German, which is very useful. We diet the patients, or rather they diet themselves! and the food is all sent in from military headquarters, and cooked in our hospital, so that we have no great trouble with that; we go to the kitchen and inspect daily. The patients have case papers, with their name, &c.—diagnosis in Latin, diet in Serbisch, temperature in Centigrade. We have to keep these for the authorities; our own charts we shall be able to keep. There is very little clerical work really to be done, in comparison with what, I hear, they have to do in France. Our ward-maids, we did not require as such, and they are working in the wards like ordinary probationers, and doing well. You will be seeing Mr. Seton Watson, I hope, this week, and he will be able to tell you about the conditions of the country and the great needs, and if you are in London, I hope you will see Miss Christitch. I am more than thankful that we came here instead of staying at Skopje or Nisch. The work is monotonous and hard and trying, and it is just a case of pegging away, but everyone is working splendidly. The X-ray work goes on well, and cases are sent up from other hospitals.

We have had one little excitement. The director of our hospital, who is a most delightful and courteous man, is most anxious that we should start a Pathological Laboratory in this town, and work at these various fevers and for cholera, which they feel sure they will have in the spring. We have been talking it over. It means that one would have to get all the apparatus from home, as they cannot supply it, but they would manage the running expenses.

From Dr. R. W. Seton-Watson, who has been visiting the headquarters of the Hospital in Edinburgh, we hear terrible accounts of the plight of Serbia, which he and Mr. G. M. Trevelyan describe in their letter published in *The Times* of February 26th.

Our five physicians left London on February 26th for their overland journey to Kraguievatz, and this week we hope to send off at least eight nurses, specially for fever. The need of even elementary medical and surgical requirements is acute, and we are sending as much in the way of equipment as is possible.

CALAIS CONTINGENT.

Dr. Alice Hutchison has received from headquarters a quantity of clothing for her Belgian wounded, and writes:—

I am very grateful for the splendid supplies, some of which have already been doled out, and have greatly rejoiced some hearts in the wards. The ornamental slippers are a great source of pleasure.

Her annexe of Dr. Depage's Hospital has lately been visited by members of the British Red Cross Society, including its President, the Hon. Arthur Stanley, and all were favourably impressed by the arrangements and by the low rate of mortality. Dr. Hutchison is busy with plans for a big extension of her work, but the details of this have not yet been finally settled by the different medical and military authorities involved. It is bad news that typhoid is spreading among the Belgian civilians. Undoubtedly our doctors and nurses will have their hands full.

NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS.

Dr. Elsie Inglis is addressing meetings as indefatigably as ever, and never speaks without reaping a golden harvest of donations. A house-to-house collection is also being carried on in certain Edinburgh streets, and different Crescents, Squares, and Places, &c., are making themselves responsible each for a bed.

The following articles are specially needed this week, and will be gratefully received by Dr. Elsie Inglis at 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh:—

Blankets (new and old), bedroom slippers, bandages, hot-water bags, draw-sheets, feather pillows, handkerchiefs, sheets, shirts, day (flannel and cotton), men's clothing (old or new), dressing gowns, pyjama suits, pillow-slips, pants, towels of all sorts.

Dr. Elsie Inglis will be most glad to address meetings on behalf of the Hospital work in any part of the Kingdom, until she herself goes abroad. Early application is desirable to 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

Books and Magazines.

THE ENGLISHWOMAN.—In "A Moral of the German War Book," Mr. R. F. Cholmeley makes the point that "it is not an accident that the 'German War Book' (with its inculcation of the most savage practices of war) should be the text-book of the General Staff of that nation to which the Suffragist's ideal has been most unwelcome." Under "Problems of the Day," protest is made against "Salic Survivals," which "forbid women to enter a great many agreeable and not too arduous professions which men desire to preserve from feminine intrusion." But there are times, the writer points out, when it becomes convenient to the ordinary public that these laws should be relaxed, and that its women should be more enterprising. "At times of emergency, such as the present European war, the most devout believers in Salic survivals are the first to demand that women shall show themselves able to take the place of men." Yet, even to-day, full use is not being made of women's capacity, and certain Trade Unions are preventing women from doing work that is urgently needed. The question of women in agriculture is dealt with by Mr. William Diack, who, in an article on "Scottish Women Farm-workers," maintains that "if the lot of the kitchen-lass, the dairy-maid, and the out-worker were brought more into harmony with modern ideas of decency, comfort, and well-being, farmers and farmers' wives would have no cause to complain of the scarcity of women workers. Sweating of women employed under Army contracts—or something very near to sweating—is clearly proved by Mr. James Haslam, who maintains that the prices paid by the Government are high enough to allow a fair rate of wages, which some employers are paying and still making a good profit. All who are interested in improving the industrial position of women should read this article. Other contributions are "Feminism in Ancient Literature," by Frederick A. Wright; "Men, Women, and War," by Helen Fraser; "Women's Suffrage in the American Congress," by Mrs. Husted Harper; "The Voluntary Aid Detachments and their Work," by B. A. M. C.; and "Milton, Wordsworth, and the Angels," by Rosaline Milton.

JUS SUFFRAGII.—A special double number of *Jus Suffragii* this month gives the preliminary programme of the International Congress of Women to be held at The Hague in April, and reports of great interest from Societies affiliated to the International Woman Suffrage Alliance. As a Supplement, is published an article on "Militarism versus Feminism," by G. K. Ogden and Mrs. Florence. Readers who were interested in Mr. Ogden's article in our issue of February 26th, under the same title, will be glad to see this thesis developed at greater length. A report of the valuable work of the International Women's Relief Committee is also of special interest.

ENGLISH MEDICAL WOMEN. By A. H. Bennett. (Pitman & Sons, 3s. 6d.)—At a time when the work of British women doctors in connection with the war has just received such gratifying recognition from our Army Medical Service, Miss Bennett's book will be read with special interest. After a brief survey of women's part in healing in ancient times, she describes the struggle of British women to obtain admission to the profession, the foundation and progress of the London School of Medicine for Women, the gradual opening up of hospital and other appointments, and the work of the hospitals officered and managed by women in this country. The last chapters deal with the work of women practitioners during the war.

AN ANGLO-BELGIAN EXHIBITION.

The sixteenth annual exhibition of the Women's International Art Club was opened on February 25th, and will continue during March. Works of members and invited artists are shown, a special feature being the pictures of Belgian women artists, and there is also a remarkably fine collection of old lace, including some exquisite Flemish lace, some of it brought from Brussels by M. Paul Lambotte.

The general level of the exhibition is high, and it contains quite a number of delightful little landscapes that one would like to possess; but there is little work of outstanding merit. Many different schools are represented, but for the most part the painting is free from the extravagance and affectation that mars the work of so many modern artists, and is refreshingly sane and wholesome. Among the most striking pictures may be mentioned "The Everlasting Hills," by E. Fothergill Robinson, which gives that sense of mystery and permanence belonging to a mountain range, suggesting the line from the Psalms, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help"; and "Noon," by Gertrude Leese, a picture of cart-horses going along a road on a windy day after rain.

Some other exhibitors are Mrs. Dods-Withers, Miss Beatrice Bland, Miss Ethel Walker, Mrs. Brough Johnson, Mrs. Laura Knight, Miss Edith Bateson, Miss Edith A. Lister, Mlle. Marie Jules Destree, and the late Mrs. Stanhope Forbes.

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Tel.: Museum 162.

The Women's Freedom League announce a

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Among those who contribute are Mrs. Creighton, Mrs. Luke Paget, Miss A. Maude Royden, Miss Ruth Rouse, Miss Gertrude Tuckwell, Mrs. Pember Reeves, &c.

A Specimen Copy will be sent to readers of "The Common Cause" on application.

You should find THE CHALLENGE on sale at all bookstalls, but if you have any difficulty or would prefer it sent direct, a copy will be posted to you for 1s weeks if you send 1s. 9d. to THE MANAGER, THE CHALLENGE, EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, LONDON, W.C.

CAUTION. The Proprietors of SCHWEITZER'S "COCOATINA," "FAIRY COCOA," etc., beg to inform their clients that NONE of their products are manufactured in Germany. That they are a private English Company managed by a Board of English Directors, and that all shares are held by relatives and connections by marriage of the late sole proprietor,

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Notes from Headquarters.

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Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
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£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Already acknowledged ... 3,917 4 1	Mr. T. Tindle Anderson, junr. (6th weekly donation) ... 2 6
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The Misses Smith ... 2 0 0	Miss Juliet Reckitt ... 98 11 0
Miss C. M. Forster (7th monthly donation) ... 5 0	Received for the Scottish Women's Hospital ... 10 0 0
Margaret, Lady Waterlow ... 10 10 0	
Miss A. M. Stook ... 2 6	
Mrs. Park, per Mrs. Wilford Wood (2nd donation) ... 10 0 0	
	£4,057 16 1

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Mrs. W. W. Greg ... 2 0 0	Mr. Harry R. Lewis ... 10 6
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£ s. d.	AFFILIATION FEES.	£ s. d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1914 ... 626 11 3	Hawick W.S.S. ... 12 6	
Received from February 20th to February 27th, 1915:—	Stowmarket W.S.S. ... 5 0	
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	Worcester W.S.S. ... 1 17 0	
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SUBSCRIPTIONS.		
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Miss Sybil Henty ... 2 6		
Mrs. G. Cecil Dickson ... 2 6		
Miss E. J. Sloane ... 10 6		
Mrs. Cooke ... 1 0		
		£633 9 9

LOST LETTERS.

In view of the fact that several letters containing Cheques and Postal Orders have lately failed to reach us, we shall be glad if any contributors who have not received an acknowledgment will communicate at once with the Hon. Treasurer, at 14, Great Smith Street, S.W. We would also suggest that in order to ensure safe delivery all letters containing money should be registered and that all cheques and postal orders should be crossed.

"COMMON CAUSE" SELLING.

If you cannot sell "The Common Cause" yourself please send us some money so that we may employ out of work women to sell the paper. Donations should be sent to the Manager, "The Common Cause," 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

Further donation received—Mrs. Tennant, 2s. 6d.

A list of important London pitches is kept at the Shop, 50, Parliament Street, and at the "C.C." office, and we can do with any number of volunteers. Sellers are urgently needed for outside Hyde Park every Sunday afternoon. Copies can be obtained on that day between 2-3 p.m. from 44, Great Cumberland Place, W.

Mrs. Fawcett on the Congress of Vienna.

Mrs. Fawcett has an interesting article in *The Nation* of February 27th on the Congress of Vienna (1815). She points out that the members accepted "the Kantian principle that democracy is the best safeguard against war," and "definitely advocated free representative institutions, with political power in the hands of the people, in the place of absolute monarchies with political power in the hands of the dynasts and their satellites." Mrs. Fawcett cherishes great hopes of the Congress to follow the present war, but we confess her article does not greatly re-assure us. The admirable nature of the principles endorsed by that of Vienna is only equalled by the deplorable character of its results. The King of Prussia was "definite, precise, and personal" as to the precise wording of his obligations, but there he stopped. "In neither sense was his promise kept." Austria, penetrated with an admirable sense of humour, "did not reject" the Kantian principle, "so long as it was understood that it was not to be applied to herself."

It is, however, at least to the good that the Congress of Vienna "unanimously condemned the slave trade, and thus did much to put an end to one of the most hideous of human wrongs." Mrs. Fawcett hopes the Congress-to-be may condemn the political subjection of women and thus help to put an end to another great injustice.

Scottish Women's Hospital.

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Further donations received to February 27th, 1915:—	Miss M. Neill Fraser ... 3 0 0
Forward as per list of February 20th, 1915 ... 9,910 4 7	Perth W.S.S., per Miss Dewar (4th donation) ... 1 0 0
Women's Educational Union, per Miss G. M. W. Anderson, Hon. Treas. (further contribution to "W. E. U." Bed) ... 15 0 0	Mrs. Speed ... 1 0 0
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Miss Mary Sullivan ... 5 0 0	Miss Dorothy Sanger (for Serbia) ... 3 0 0
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Mrs. Carr (£2), Mrs. Reynolds (8s. 9d.), Sums under 6s. (16s. 3d.) ... 3 5 0	Sir Thomas Glen Coats ... 100 0 0
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Miss McGaffin (per COMMON CAUSE, Serbian Unit) ... 1 16 0	Hon. Mrs. F. J. Moncrieff, £2; Miss Wilkie, 10s.; Mr. Mrs., and Miss Richardson, £25; Anonymous, 4s. 2d.; Mrs. and Miss Horsburg, 10s.; Mrs. R. Macnair, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Boswell, £5; Miss Campbell, £2; Miss Smith, £1; Mrs. Walker, 10s.; Miss Fraser, £2; Miss Scott, £1; Mrs. Lang, £1; Mrs. Buchanan Campbell, £1; Mrs. David Christison, £2 2s.; Mrs. H. Munro Ferguson, £1 1s.; Mrs. and the Misses Kirkpatrick, £1 10s.; the Misses Chalmers, 10s.; the Misses Fleming, 10s.; Mrs. Hugh Rose, £1; Mrs. Chalmers Hanna, £1; Mrs. Walker, £1; Mrs. Hardie, 10s.; P. Whyte, Esq., £1 ... 53 9 8
Miss Agnes M. D. Teacher (for Serbian Unit) ... 25 0 0	
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Miss Sheriss (7s. 6d.), Misses Aitchison and a Friend (13s.), Sale of pincushions by Mrs. Murray and a Friend (£3 10s.), Miss Goodwillie, Peebles (8s.), Two Friends, Peebles (1s. 6d.), Mrs. Balfour, of Dawyck (to name the "Balfour" Bed) (£25) ... 30 0 0	
Miss Sibyl Lees (for "Sibyl" Bed) ... 2 0	
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Falkirk W.S.S., per Miss Jane Taylor ... 25 0 0	
Miss A. I. Stowell, Lowfields ... 1 1 0	
Mrs. Jamieson ... 10 0 0	
Balance of Working Party Funds, Miss Ethel Souter ... 1 7 8	
Largs W.S.S., per Miss Margaret C. Paton, Hon. Sec.:—	
Largs W.S.S. (£1 5s.), Mrs. Dewar Paton (donation to Field Kitchens) (5s.), Mrs. A. Boyd (2s. 6d.), Miss G. Boyd (2s. 6d.), Mrs. D. Paton (2s. 6d.), Miss M. C. Paton (2s. 6d.) ... 2 0 0	
Collected by Mrs. Brown, per Dr. A. Louise McIlroy (for "Cambuslang" Bed, France 3rd Unit) ... 60 0 0	
"I. L. F." (Field Kitchen) ... 2 6	
Mrs. Inga Clifford ... 5 0 0	
C. E. Hodgkin, Esq., per Miss L. C. Jones, Hon. Sec., Pangbourne W.S.S. ... 10 6	
Collected by Miss M. McDonald Clark and Friends, per Mrs. Gunn (to name "Leith" Bed in France) ... 68 0 0	
Per Miss Dalziel, President, Bridge of Weir W.S.S.:—	
Mrs. Jas. Muirhead (£1), Miss Dalziel (£1) ... 2 0 0	
Miss Grace Mitchell ... 10 0	
Mrs. E. Rodger ... 1 1 0	
Miss Mabel Beveridge (for Serbian Unit) ... 10 0	
Miss Margaret Carswell (dressings for Serbian Unit) ... 7 0 0	
Miss Margaret Johnston ... 25 0 0	
Miss S. Campbell Stuart ... 5 5 0	
Miss Stewart ... 1 0 0	
Miss May Dehane Cross ... 1 0 0	

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Bed.	Donor.
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"Old Grovian"	From past and present members of the Grove School, Highgate (per Miss Alicia M. B. Lee, Hon. Sec., Old Grovian Association).
"Carlisle"	Ninety-six members of the Carlisle Society (per Miss Mabel E. Bardsley).
"Pittsburg"	Miss Mabel Allardye.
"Balfour"	Mrs. Balfour, of Dawyck.
"Cambuslang"	Collected by Mrs. Brown, Ashfield, Cambuslang.
"Leith"	Collected by Miss M. McDonald Clark and Friends.
"Magdala"	Collected by Mrs. Ralph Richardson, 10, Magdala Place, Edinburgh.
"Central Counties Federation"	Per Dr. Olive Elgood Turner, Hon. Treasurer.

Further help is urgently required to carry on the work of our units. The cry for further assistance comes from all. Subscriptions very gratefully received, either by the Hon. Secretary, Dr. Elsie Inglis, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Laurie, Red House, Greenock. Cheques to be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland."

Items of Interest.

Women's Hospitals in Invaded Countries.

Dr. Sloan Chesser spoke on February 27th to a large meeting on "Women's Hospitals in Invaded Countries." She prefaced her description of work done abroad by emphasising the enormous amount of hospital work that could be done at home by those unable to go to the actual seat of war. There were 800 base hospitals at home, where Red Cross work could be done. Voluntary Aid workers should press for entrance into all their local hospitals; the training was essential, and there was likelihood their services would be wanted.

Dr. Chesser touched in turn upon the chief women's hospitals, mentioning particularly the Wimereux hospital under Dr. L. Garrett Anderson, with its parent branch at Claridge's, in Paris, under Dr. F. Murray; the three units sent out by the Scottish Federation of W.S.S. at Royaumont, Calais, and Serbia; Mrs. Sinclair Stobart's at Cherbourg, and a hospital at Ypres, staffed by nuns and financed by Quakers.

The greatest need of all is at present in Serbia; here a very valuable work is being done by Lady Paget's hospital of 800 beds. Anyone wishing to volunteer for the front could do no better than to go to Serbia. The outbreak of typhus, due to the insanitary conditions, was very serious. Lady Paget had asked her to make known the needs of Serbia; offers of personal service or gifts could be sent to Sir Ralph Paget, 32, York Terrace, Regent's Park, N.

Dr. Chesser then gave an interesting detailed description of the arrangements for treating the wounded as instancing the co-operation between men and women that was going on. The wounded man, after bandaging himself or being bandaged by a comrade in the firing line, passed in turn through the "Regimental and Post," the "Field Ambulance," to the Casualty Clearing Station, some ten miles behind the firing line. Here the nursing sisters are first met with, and the wounded receive an anti-tetanus injection. The next link is the ambulance train, which takes them to the base hospital or to Boulogne for shipment to England. From the "Casualty clearing station" women are helping everywhere. The Voluntary Aid worker is doing a great work at many of the stations. They work night and day in relays feeding the wounded. At Boulogne several railway waggons tracked on to a siding form the headquarters of a V.A.D. Here as many as 2,300 men had been fed in one day. Dr. Chesser took the opportunity of offering an apology to the Voluntary Aid worker; she had taught many, and had told them she would rather fall into the hands of the Germans than entrust herself to them; she wished now to pay a tribute to their abilities, they had also shown a good discretion in confining themselves to work which they were capable of performing.

Early Breakfasts for Territorials.

A Territorial writing to *The Daily News*, gives an example of service to our soldiers that many may like to follow. He tells how a lady gives an excellent breakfast every morning to Territorials coming off trench guard in the early hours of the morning, to do which she gets up at 4.40 to cook.

"Twenty-six men are on guard, and as many as like can have breakfast at her house. She is a nurse, and has only a small house. The only way in which she will accept payment is by the men putting contributions towards the cost in a box. Sixpence seems to be the maximum amount, yet you may have as much to eat as you desire. This morning she gave us fried liver and bacon, tea, marmalade, and two kinds of jam. Only those who have been on such a guard as mine last night can appreciate what a benefactor she has made herself."

A Service of Intercession.

A Service of Intercession, arranged by the Church League for Women's Suffrage, will be held on Saturday, March 20th, at 3 p.m., at St. Mary's, Soho, Charing Cross-road, by kind invitation of the Vicar, the Rev. H. M. Ward. An address will be given by the Rev. G. N. Whittingham, Vicar of St. Silas the Martyr, Kentish Town.

Workroom for Unemployed Women.

An organiser of the N.U.W.S.S. asks for orders for a workroom for unemployed women, which has been opened at the Primitive Methodist Chapel, New Rows, New Walsing-

ham, Co. Durham, which has been kindly lent by the trustees. She points out that orders can be executed here at a price very little in excess of what it would cost knitters to make the things themselves, the difference between the wholesale and retail price of wool almost covering the cost of labour. The workroom was started in the autumn, when the pits were on very short time, and bids fair to establish a permanent industry where there are very few openings for girls.

The Queen's "Work for Women" Fund.

100 MILES OF PENNIES SCHEME.

Mrs. C. Arthur Pearson, the Hon. Treasurer of the Queen's "Work for Women" Fund, announces that the first mile lap in this great and absorbing race of collecting a hundred miles of pennies, amounting to £22,000, before July next, was covered on Saturday. The mile travelled has been done in what may be called "record time," for the collectors had to gather 52,800 pence to cover the distance.

The progress and accomplishment, however, of this first mile of the race, have indicated to the organisers that the scheme has proved to be a very effective method of gathering in money in the smallest sums. Every post brings with it an increasing response from ladies who volunteer to take part in the collection.

Volunteers should write to 33, Portland Place, the headquarters of the Queen's "Work for Women" Fund, and ask for particulars of this mileage scheme.

What Some of Our Societies are Doing.

West of England Federation.

WOOTTON BASSETT (WILTS.)

As a cheering intimation that, in spite of the war, interest in our subject is still felt, we lately received a request for a speaker from the Wootton Bassett Debating Society.

The debate took place on February 16th, in the Town Hall—a beautiful old building set up on piles in the middle of the High Street. Miss Hunter, of Wootton Bassett, took the chair. Miss Baretti shortly outlined the special relief work of the Union during the war, and then developed the familiar Suffrage arguments. The audience was sympathetically critical, and a good discussion followed the speech. In spite of the fact that this was the first time Women's Suffrage had been publicly advocated in Wootton Bassett, the audience showed a considerable knowledge of the subject. It is much hoped that as a result of the debate a branch of the Union may be established in the town.

Work in Bristol.

The weekly working parties are continued, and are now in aid of the Belgians in Holland and of the Friends' War Victims' Relief Committee in France, where one of our Committee, Miss Hilda Cashmore, is helping. A large crate of clothes has already been sent to London from our Society, to be forwarded for these two objects. Out-of-work women are still employed at these sewing meetings. The two Patriotic Clubs for women are doing well, and a very successful concert was held on February 26th in aid of the one at Bedminster.

Several of our members have been speaking at Co-operative meetings, Mothers' Schools, &c. Mrs. W. C. H. Cross gave Health Talks at Mothers' Schools on the 9th and 12th, and spoke on Women Police at the Totterdown Men's Discussion Class on the 21st; she also spoke at the S. Bristol Women's Liberal Association annual meeting on the 22nd on Women's Patriotic Clubs and Women Police. Miss Tanner addressed the Totterdown branch of the Bristol W.S. Society on the 22nd on Women Police, and spoke on the same subject at the Greenbank Co-operative Branch on the 26th. Our members have been giving talks on Citizenship at Co-operative and other Societies.

Epsom.

The members have been actively engaged since war commenced in all kinds of relief and other work. The Committee has collected a considerable sum with which materials have been bought, and a large number of baby clothes have been and are being made and distributed amongst the Belgian mothers. Clothing of all description has been collected and sent where the needs were the greatest. Parcels have been sent to Holland.

Some Useful Addresses.

Employment and Relief, &c.

- Local Government Board—London, Edinburgh, and Dublin.
 Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund—3, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.
 Central Committee on Women's Employment—Miss Mary Macarthur, 8, Grosvenor Place, S.W.
 Queen's Work for Women Fund—Communications to Lady Roxburgh, Cheques, Mrs. C. Arthur Pearson, 33, Portland Place, W.
 Government Sub-Committee for dealing with unemployment amongst professional people.—J. B. Beresford, Esq., Local Government Board, Whitehall, S.W.
 Workers' National Committee—28, Victoria Street, S.W.
 National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies—Sec., Miss Crookenden, M.A., Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.
 London Society for Women's Suffrage (N.U.W.S.S.)—Sec., Miss Philippa Strachey, 58, Victoria Street.
 Women's Emergency Corps—8-10, Baker Street, W.
 Women's Freedom League—1, Robert Street, Adelphi.
 East London Federation of Suffragettes—Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, 221, Roman Road, Bow, E.
 Professional Classes War Relief Council—Hon. Secs., T. Chambers, Esq., A. Goddard, Esq., and Mrs. Gotto, 13 and 14, Princes Gate, S.W.
 Press Contributors' Emergency Fund—Sec., Miss Hall, care of N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.
 To assist journalists who have lost their occupation owing to the war.
 Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries—The Secretary, 12, Buckingham Street, Strand.
 War Emergency Fund (same address).
 Women's Co-operative Guild—28, Church Row, Hampstead, N.W.
 British Dominions Overseas Women's Suffrage Union—Miss Harriet Newcomb, care of International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton Street, W.

SCHEMES FOR SOCIAL WELFARE AMONGST WOMEN AND GIRLS.

- National Organisation of Girls' Clubs—118, Great Titchfield Street, W.
 Girl Guides—116, Victoria Street, S.W. (Head Office).
 League of Honour—Mrs. Porter, 6, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C.
 Women Patrols Committee—N.U.W.W., Parliament Mansions, S.W.
 Club Rooms for Soldiers' and Sailors' Wives, Tipperary Clubs, Cheer-up Clubs, &c.—London Secretary: Tipperary Rooms, Block's Road, Hammersmith.
 Young Women's Christian Association—26, George Street, W.

SOCIETIES DEALING WITH REFUGEES AND STRANDED FOREIGNERS.

- War Refugees Committee—General Buildings, Aldwych.
 The Belgian Relief Fund—The Belgian Legation, 15, West Halkin Street, W.
 Departmental Committee for considering the question of employment of Belgian Refugees.
 Secretary: Local Government Board, Whitehall, S.W.
 Belgians' Relief Fund—8, Chiswell Street, E.C. (for articles of clothing).
 The Wounded Allies Relief Committee—Whitehall House, 30, Charing Cross, S.W.
 French Section of the War Refugees Committee (Authorised by French Ambassador)—General Buildings, Aldwych, W.C.
 The International Women's Relief Committee—7, Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.
 Destitute Aliens' Committee—Secretary: Mr. E. Sebag Montefiore, Home Office.
 Aliens' Relief Fund—Hon. Treasurer: W. Hanbury Aggs, Esq., Barclay's Bank, Pall Mall East, S.W.
 The United Aliens' Relief Society—68, Finsbury Pavement (for helping distressed foreigners).

HOSPITALS AND AMBULANCES.

- British Red Cross Society—9, Victoria Street, S.W., and 83, Pall Mall, S.W.
 Order of St. John of Jerusalem—St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell. Chairman: Hon. Arthur Stanley.
 French Croix Rouge—Anglo-French Committee: Arthur Stocking, Esq., 83, Pall Mall.
 Union des Femmes de France—Union des Dames Françaises—Association des Blanches—London Representative: Madame la Vicomtesse de la Panouse, 35, Ennismore Gardens, S.W.
 Scottish Women's Hospital, N.U.W.S.S.—14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.

ORGANISATIONS FOR THE ASSISTANCE OF SOLDIERS AND SAILORS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS.

- Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association—23, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. London business at 11, Tothill Street, S.W.
 Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society—Major Tudor Craig, 122, Brompton Road, S.W.
 Officers' Families' Fund—Lady Lansdowne, Hon. Sec., Lady Hope, Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, W.
 Prisoners of War (Information Bureau)—49, Wellington Street, Strand.
 Offers of Hospitality to Dependents of Men at the Front—The Under-Secretary of State for War, War Office, Whitehall, S.W.
 Free Doctors and Cheap Drugs for Soldiers' Dependents—Board of Education, Whitehall, S.W.
 Clothing for Soldiers, Sailors, their Families, and Persons in Distress—Queen Mary's Needlework Guild, St. James's Palace, S.W.
 Young Men's Christian Association—13, Russell Square, W.C.

Forthcoming Meetings.

- MARCH 5.**
Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home"
 —Miss A. Mackay on "My Experiences in Germany" 4.30
- MARCH 8.**
Bristol—40, Park Street—Working Party
Manchester—Oldfield Hall, Gardenwall Street
 —South Salford Club 8.0
- MARCH 9.**
Bristol—5, Berkeley Square—French Class for Soldiers
Worcester—King's Hall, Foregate Street—
 Public Meeting—Miss Ashton, on "The Real Cost of War"—Chair, The Dean 8.0
- MARCH 10.**
Coatbridge—Kirkwood House—Drawing-room
 Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Spencer—Speakers, Dr. Louise MacCroy, Miss E. M. C. Foggo 3.0
Manchester—Minor Hall, Y.M.C.A., Peter Street—Mrs. Rackham, on "The Position of the Professional and Industrial Women"—Chair, Mr. G. K. Grierson, M.A. 7.30
- MARCH 11.**
Birkenhead—Schoolroom, Bessborough Road, Oxtown—Annual Meeting—Speaker, the Rev. J. Ivory Cripps, B.A.—Chair, Mrs. Duckworth 3.0
Bristol—5, Berkeley Square—French Class for Soldiers
Manchester—Conservative Club, Prestwich—Mrs. Rackham on "Women's Work in War" 3.0
Glasgow—202, Hope Street—Miss Young (National Federation of Women Workers), on "Women in Industry" 4.0
Wallasey and Wirral—St. Paul's Schools, Sea-combe—Tipperary Club 7.30
- MARCH 12.**
Dennistown—Belgrove Hall—Evening Entertainment by the ladies of the Rutherford U.F. Church—Tickets, 2s., 1s.—Speaker, Miss E. M. C. Foggo 7.30
Warwick and Leamington—35, Warwick Street, Leamington—Joint Meeting—Dr. Lillias Hamilton on "Educated Women as Forewomen in Factories" 3.0

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